




The Court has carefully considered the Objections; the Memorandum and Recommendation; the pleadings; and the record. The Court **ACCEPTS** Judge Edison's Memorandum and Recommendation and **ADOPTS** it as the opinion of the Court. It is therefore **ORDERED** that:

- Judge Edison's Memorandum and Recommendation (Dkt. 45) is **APPROVED AND ADOPTED** in its entirety as the holding of the Court;
- Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment (Dkt. 37) is **GRANTED**;
- Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment (Dkt. 38) is **DENIED**;
- The decision of ALJ Thomas is **REVERSED**; and
- The case is **REMANDED** to the Department of Health and Human Services for reconsideration in accordance with this opinion and applicable law.

It is so **ORDERED**.

SIGNED at Houston, Texas, this 8th day of May, 2020.

  
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GEORGE C. HANKS, JR.  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE